

**REVISED CHAPTER PROPOSED BY  
THE BUREAU OF THE AQUATIC ANIMALS COMMISSION**

CHAPTER 2.1.1.

EPIZOOTIC HAEMATOPOIETIC NECROSIS

Article 2.1.1.1.

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, epizootic haematopoietic necrosis (EHN) means infection with the viral species EHN virus (EHNV) in the genus *Ranavirus* of the family Iridoviridae.

Methods for surveillance and diagnosis are provided in the *Aquatic Manual*.

Article 2.1.1.2.

**Susceptible species**

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, *susceptible species* for EHN are: redbfin perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Macquarie perch (*Macquaria australasica*), silver perch (*Bidyanus bidyanus*), mountain galaxias (*Galaxias olidus*), mosquito fish (*Gambusia affinis*) and other species belonging to the family Poeciliidae.

Suspect cases of natural infection with EHNV in species other than those listed in this Article should be referred immediately to the OIE Reference Laboratory for EHN, whether or not clinical signs are associated with the findings.

Article 2.1.1.3.

**Commodities**

- 1) When authorising import or transit of the following [commodities](#), *Competent Authorities* should not require any EHN related conditions, regardless of the EHN status of the [exporting country](#), [zone](#) or [compartment](#):
  - a) leather made from fish skin via a full curing process;
  - b) fish by-products, such as flame-dried or sun-dried meals, and ensilaged fish;
  - c) dead eviscerated fish of a species listed in Article 2.1.1.2. (chilled, sun-dried, smoked or frozen) not intended for further processing prior to retail sale;
  - d) dead fish of non-susceptible species, eviscerated or non-eviscerated;
  - e) canned fish;
  - f) chemically preserved (and rendered non-infectious) specimens of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2.

- 2) When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities* of a species listed in Article 2.1.1.2., *Competent Authorities* should require the conditions prescribed in Articles 2.1.1.7. to 2.1.1.11. of this Chapter, relevant to the EHN status of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment*:
  - a) *aquatic animals*;
  - b) *aquatic animal products*.
- 3) When considering the import or transit of a *commodity* not listed above from an *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free of EHN, *Competent Authorities* of the *importing country* should conduct an analysis of the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of EHN, and the potential consequences, associated with importation of the *commodity*, prior to a decision. This assessment should be made available to the *exporting country*.

#### Article 2.1.1.4.

### **EHN free country**

A country may declare itself free from EHN if it meets the conditions in point 1), 2) or 3) below.

If a country shares a water resource with one or more other countries, it can only declare itself an EHN free country if all the areas covered by the shared water resource are declared EHN free countries or zones (see Article 2.1.1.5.).

- 1) A country where none of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2. is present may declare itself free from EHN when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years.

OR

- 2) A country where the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 25 years despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from EHN when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place continuously in the country for at least the past 10 years.

OR

- 3) A country where the last observed occurrence of the *disease* was within the past 25 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from EHN when:
  - a) it has met *basic biosecurity conditions* for at least the past 2 years; and
  - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years.

#### Article 2.1.1.5.

### **EHN free zone or free compartment**

A *zone* or *compartment* within the *territory* of one or more countries not declared free from EHN may be declared free by the *Competent Authority(ies)* of the country(ies) concerned, if the *zone* or *compartment* meets the conditions referred to in point 1), 2) or 3) below.

If a *zone* or *compartment* extends over more than one country, it can only be declared an EHN free *zone* or *compartment* if all the relevant *Competent Authorities* confirm that the conditions have been met.

- 1) A *zone* or *compartment* where none of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2. is present may be declared free from EHN when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years.

OR

- 2) A *zone* or *compartment* where the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2. are present but in which there has not been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 25 years despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may be declared free from EHN when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been in place continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 10 years.

OR

- 3) A *zone* or *compartment* where the last observed occurrence of the *disease* was within the past 25 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from EHN when:
  - a) it has met *basic biosecurity conditions* for at least the past 2 years; and
  - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years.

Article 2.1.1.6.

### **Maintenance of free status**

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from EHN following the provisions of points 1) or 2) of Articles 2.1.1.4. or 2.1.1.5., respectively, may maintain its status as EHN free provided that *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from EHN following the provisions of point 3) of Articles 2.1.1.4. or 2.1.1.5., respectively, may discontinue *targeted surveillance* and maintain its status as EHN free provided that conditions that are conducive to clinical expression of EHN, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, exist and *basic biosecurity conditions* are maintained.

However, for declared free *zones* or *compartments* in infected countries and in all cases where conditions are not conducive to clinical expression of EHN, *targeted surveillance* needs to be continued at a level determined by the *Competent Authority* on the basis of the likelihood of reinfection.

Article 2.1.1.7.

### **Importation of live animals from a country, zone or compartment declared free from EHN**

When importing *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 2.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from EHN, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*, certifying that, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 2.1.1.4. or 2.1.1.5. (as applicable), the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from EHN.

The certificate shall be in accordance with Model Certificate No. [X] in Part 6 of this *Aquatic Code*.

Article 2.1.1.8.

**Importation of live animals for aquaculture activities from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from EHN**

When importing for *aquaculture activities aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 2.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from EHN, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that:

- 1) the consignment be delivered directly into and held in approved secure rearing facilities;
- 2) the imported *aquatic animals* and their first generation progeny be continuously isolated from the local environment; and
- 3) all effluent and waste material be treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of EHN.

Article 2.1.1.9.

**Importation of live animals for processing and/or human consumption from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from EHN**

When importing for processing and/or human consumption *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 2.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from EHN, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that:

- 1) the consignment be delivered directly to and held in approved secure holding facilities for a short period before processing and/or consumption; and
- 2) all effluent and waste material be treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of EHN.

Article 2.1.1.10.

**Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment free from EHN**

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 2.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from EHN, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*, certifying that, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 2.1.1.4. or 2.1.1.5. (as applicable), the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from EHN.

The certificate shall be in accordance with Model Certificate No. [X] in Part 6 of this *Aquatic Code*.

Article 2.1.1.11.

**Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from EHN**

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article 2.1.1.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 2.1.1.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from EHN, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that:

- 1) the consignment be delivered directly to and held in approved secure storage facilities, and be processed only in approved processing plants, and
- 2) all effluent and waste material be treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of EHN.